

Camp sites are located in a natural parkland setting on Big Cedar Lake. Come, relax, and reconnect with nature in this family friendly, Christian environment.

#### **MURRAY STREET, PETERBOROUGH - Catherine Allen**

On Sun. Nov. 22nd, 2016 the congregation, represented by Tish Oosterbroek and Carey Gibson, presented Rev. Dale Soble with various items for him and Susan to enjoy when they vacation this summer at their favourite cottage in Nova Scotia. A lovely luncheon was held in our dining hall following worship. We pray that they truly enjoy their retirement. \* Rev. Dr. Charles Jackson is presently serving as Interim Pastor. We look forward to their time with us. During this transition period the congregation must decide their priorities for the future. To that end the morning of Sat. Feb. 20th has been set aside for discussion. \* The traditional Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve was inspiring as usual. \* The 'Warming Room' (aka our downstairs dining-room) is being used to capacity most nights. One of the coordinators spoke at our Jan. Baptist Women's meeting and was full of information about how the 'Room' functions. 20-25 (both men and women) sleep on folding cots each night Nov. through April. There are two shifts of workers: 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and 2 a.m. to 8 a.m. with one CMHC staff person and usually three volunteers on duty. \* Our Interim Outreach Worker, Rachel Lawless, has just completed her term with us. This has been a successful partnership with her, the Church volunteers, and the people who use our church facilities. We are accepting applications for this part-time position.

#### **CALVARY BAPTIST, COBOURG - Karen Bellamy**

We kicked off the Christmas season in a wonderful way with a hymn sing and refreshments hosted by the talented Dixon family. Their ministry of music (and more!) has been a tremendous blessing to CBC. \*The Ladies' annual Christmas potluck luncheon on Dec. 8th was a festive time of delicious food and fellowship, as was our Christmas dinner on Dec. 20th. \*On Dec. 17th the choir and church members took part in the annual carol sing series which takes place in Cobourg's historic Victoria Hall. \*This year Calvary donated 18 boxes of groceries, 99 toys and a large bag of knitted items to the Salvation Army Christmas Hampers. \*During Advent Pastor Clarke led us through the Christmas story as seen through the lens of the Book of Revelation: a look at how the Messiah fulfilled God's plan to restore a broken, fallen world: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever." (Rev. 11:15) \*We were also blessed by the

puppetry skills of the Dixon boys and by our handbell choir and soloist. \*Cobourg's Better Together Refugee Sponsorship program continues, with families expected to arrive soon. Calvary hosted a Prayer Gathering for this initiative on Dec. 11th. Also, In Jan. there will be a pulpit rotation. All will speak on aspects of the Christian response to the current refugee crisis. \*On Jan. 20th Northumberland Youth Unlimited kicked off their One Eighty Drop-In program for teens at Calvary.\*Our weekly programs and study groups continue as does our Sunday morning adult class which is embarking on a study of Bible Doctrines. \*Wishing all a safe and blessed winter season.

#### **LAKEFIELD BAPTIST - Joanne Anderson**

Our ladies enjoyed our weekend at Kingfisher Bay Retreat Centre again this year. Our Youth group which meets on Friday night at 6:30 are going thru a restructuring to accommodate two age groups. If you know anyone in Lakefield from 9 to 17 yrs old please encourage them to join us. They will love our leaders. A 2 day camp is planned by Carolyn V., during March break. Our youth will be attending the fun Blizzard weekend early Feb.

#### **EDMISON HEIGHTS, PETERBOROUGH - Gil Plumley**

Nov. was an extremely busy month. Christmas choir practices and other seasonal preparations for our Christmas celebration in full swing. Our second annual Christmas Cookie Walk fundraiser was successful with all proceeds going to local community outreach. A Service of Ordination took lace for Kenneth Gill and we wish him God's blessing and favour. ❖ In Dec. we were thrilled to have the Edmison Heights Public School choir come and share a special Christmas presentation with us in response to our monthly provision of muffins towards their *Food For Kids* program. What a blessing it was to our congregation to see over a hundred students joyfully singing their Christmas songs and to hear expressions of thanks and appreciation from the school principal relating what this program has meant to the students and staff at the school. We are thankful for the opportunities this outreach has given us to be the tangible presence of Jesus' love in this place.

**\*Next newsletter due April 22 [wdchurchlady@aol.com](mailto:wdchurchlady@aol.com)**

**\*TVA website at [tvabaptist.wordpress.com](https://tvabaptist.wordpress.com)**

**\*TVA Spring Rally Sat. April 2nd @ Immanuel Baptist, Belleville**

**\*TVBW Spring Meeting to be held at Cambridge Baptist Lindsay  
On Sat. June 4th**

### **TRENTVALLEY ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES**

#### **NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2016**

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#### **WHITBY BAPTIST - Mair Greaves**

Whitby Baptist Church welcomes 2016 with great anticipation for all God will do through and in each person. Two youth groups, ROCK and RISE, will be attending Avalanche and Blizzard through CBOQ at Muskoka Woods. RISE members are preparing for a Compassion trip in Toronto this March Break. Blessings Needlecraft meets weekly and is sending knitted goods to an Aboriginal school in Kachechewan, Ontario. Whitby Baptist Women meet monthly, averaging 18, support local and global missions, and will be involved in the Great Canadian Bible Study in January and a Love Day project in February. Over Christmas, two schools, a childcare centre and Kindred Hearts Quilting Guild co-ordinated food drives. Proceeds came to our Food Bank which assists an average of 52 people monthly. On Feb. 20, WBC's team of Frigid Heirs will walk in the Coldest Night of the Year, raising funds for The Refuge, which supports and serves the hungry, homeless and hurting.

#### **IMMANUEL BAPTIST, BELLEVILLE - Ruth Webber**

"After a Christmas Season filled with wonderful Carols by Christopher, our Music Director, with his team plus inspirational sermons from our interim pastor, Rev. Dr. Gordon Finlay, we have returned to our winter routine. The Prayer Group, Men's Breakfast, Baptist Women and Adult Bible Study have all returned.\*The Pastoral Search Committee continues to prayerfully seek God's will for our new minister. We are grateful that Pastor Gordon will continue to mentor us for an extended period as needed.\*We anticipate more activities for our Missions in Haiti and Bolivia and also toward the six members who are going on a short term mission to the Dominican Republic again in April."

**CAMPBELLFORD - Jennifer Pounder**

Winter has come, and with it some amazing gatherings. Ours began on Sun. Dec. 13th when we had a baptismal service during our morning worship time. How beautiful it was to celebrate the Christmas and Easter message together as a community of believers! As we settle in for the colder months, we want to remember the fun we had in the summer with our **VBS Reunion** to be held on **Fri. Jan. 29th from 6:30-8 pm**. This annual event is a wonderful opportunity for VBS kids to connect with their friends again, and enjoy a night of worship, crafts, games, and snacks. Beginning on **Ash Wed. Feb. 10th and continuing each Wed. thereafter until and including March 23rd** Rev. **George Budd** will be providing **Lenten Lessons**. Praise the Lord, this will be the **18<sup>th</sup> year** Rev. George Budd has come to lead us in these beautiful lessons. We are so blessed. Each week begins with lunch being served at 11:45 am, and then the Lenten Lessons at 12:30 pm. We have also planned on holding the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hometown Praise Night on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**.

#### **FIRST BAPTIST, OSHAWA - Glenn Wyper**

On the evening of Sun. Nov. 29th we held our annual Advent-Christmas concert with the joint choirs of Marantha Christian Reformed Church of Bowmanville and our own choir. Coru Kuipers, our organist, led the choir. Ashton McMaster, on piano. Kamayu Roberts on percussion. Danielle Coleman-Pollock sang 'Oh Holy Night.' David McDonald also sang a solo part of one of the pieces and substituted for Cory as choir leader. Mary-Jean McDonald on flute musical numbers. Jacquie Favrin was the reader. It was an enjoyable and worshipful evening. Afterward, everyone met together to partake of the delicious goodies provided by the Women's Association.

#### **CAMBRIDGE STREET, LINDSAY - Bruce Taylor**

We entered the Advent season with a bang by filling 118 shoeboxes and 10 big boxes that will transform lives through Operation Christmas Child. On Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, we conducted our annual Veteran's Day Service in cooperation with the local Legion. We continued on with our annual Spirit of Christmas concert on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> and raised \$950.00 to be used for our Missions programs. Our Christmas Eve service was well attended and very stirring when we distributed candles and dimmed the lights. A Taste of India dinner was held on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> and the food was prepared by Swathy Sree who is a

student at Sir Sanford Fleming College and is an international student from India. Pastor Phil Brown, arranged for a travelogue of India following the dinner.

#### **UXBRIDGE BAPTIST - Julia Ott**

Dec. was full, beginning with our annual Merry Little Christmas community event featuring specialty coffees and desserts. Patrick and Lisa Timney and their daughter, Brittany Roberts, entertained us with a wonderful range of music, singing Broadway and Christmas songs. They were accompanied by Bev Foster. \*The Bible Memory Challenge kept many people busy and we were pleased to see three new winners of Bibles.\* Later in the month, our biennial Living Nativity was performed outdoors in downtown Uxbridge with about 100 participants & an audience of about 1400. Praise God that the message of Jesus' love is reaching out into the community. \*Some of our young people accompanied Pastor Patrick Brightman to Urbana and we were encouraged by a couple of testimonies shared recently. \*On our first week back to Sunday school we welcomed Mimi Kashira Haws, who has extensive experience working with International students to share God's word and love. She and her husband Paul have started a new student movement on the Queen's campus called Agape Fellowship. \*We are enjoying the contribution of the Kidz Dance and Kidz Choir to our services. The choir is practicing for their spring presentation "God's Not Dead". \*Our next Redemption evenings will take place on Jan. 31 and Feb. 28. Everyone is welcome. Please see the website for more information.

#### **HARMONY ROAD, OSHAWA - Pastor Dave**

We saw the hand of God moving in powerful ways and we experienced His continued encouragement through the past few months. Two youth and three adults were baptized and we also had a wedding in Dec. for a couple who had dreamed of it but were unable to because of limited resources. Our Nov. business meeting was one of the highlights of the year as the Spirit of God moved among our meeting to support the need for a men's shelter in North Bay under the leadership of one of our former youth. A building has since been acquired. The "Hope Awaits" shelter will provide needed hope for many homeless men. We added 7 new members to our membership (3 of whom were youth/young adults) and 3 children were dedicated to

God by God-fearing parents. Our Church anniversary in Nov. celebrated 53 years as a church and 67 years as a Sunday School in the Oshawa community. Pastors Rob and Dave shared "Behind the Wooden Wall ~ Stories from the Other Side of the Pulpit" with reflections from our long time service at Harmony. Our Sunday School also led an inspiring praise time in between our morning services. Through our Christmas drive we supported 6 families with food hampers and we also supported 3 local Christian ministries who reach out to those in need. One of our members has created excitement around "banners" inside city buses with a phrase and Bible verse on them, to get God's Word out to our city (see [www.busstopbiblestudies.com](http://www.busstopbiblestudies.com)). To date 21 banners have been sponsored by our church families. Our new year kicked off with the CBOQ Youth Avalanche weekend in Jan. where youth were challenged by the life of Moses to live fully for God. Tim Teakle and Laura Bronson shared to the record setting attendance for the over 500 Junior Youth. What a blessing God has given through our CBOQ Youth! We had several pass on to glory last year and pray for God's healing for those who are hurting and grieving their loss.

#### **CAMP BURBALAC NEWS - Judy Anderson**

The camp board is planning for a warm and wonderful 2016 camping season. Please pray that God would supply wisdom, guidance and direction in the decisions for 2016 and beyond. There will be potable water in the camp for this coming season! The camp board is installing a water purification system at a significant cost. Donations would be appreciated to help offset the cost of this upgrade. Charitable donation receipts are issued for any amount over ten dollars. One of the summer highlights is the water regatta held the August long weekend. Check the website, [www.burbalac.org](http://www.burbalac.org) for activities. Church services are held every Sunday morning. Camp opens Friday, July 1. Please contact Dave Green at 705-654-9933 for reservations. After July 1 call the camp manager at 705-654-4094. The group site accommodates up to 25 people. Book your youth group or family reunion. Come to Camp Burbalac for a day, a weekend, a week or more! Tell your relatives and friends! Camp Burbalac is a short drive from Peterborough, just north of Burleigh Falls in the beautiful North Kawartha tourist area.